

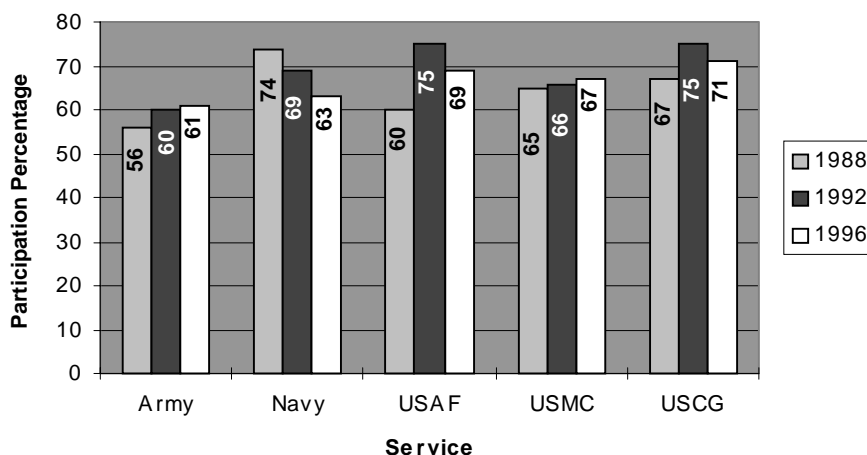
A roundup of voting news from the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) 3 3 For voters, potential voters and those who assist voters.

## Initial Survey Results Are In

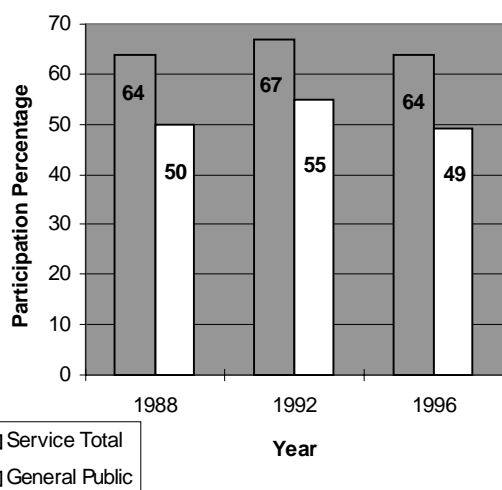
# Military Retains High Participation Rates

The 1996 Post Election Survey revealed that the men and women of the Uniformed Services maintained their high voter participation rates over that of the United States general public again in 1996. The military has had greater participation in Presidential elections including and since the 1984 election. In 1996, the Uniformed Services voted at an overall rate of 64%, compared to the 49% rate generated by the general public. The Uniformed Services' high participation rate can be directly attributed to the active voter assistance programs conducted by Service Commanders and to assistance from the state and local election officials in simplifying the

**Table 1: Service Participation, Presidential Elections 1988 - 1996**



**Table 2: Service and General Public Participation, Presidential Elections 1988 - 1996**



absentee voting process and accommodating the special needs of the Uniformed Services who serve their country in a wide range of special situations.

While voting participation by the general public decreased 6% from 1992 the military participation went down only 3% - for a full 15% greater

The FVAP is very pleased with these results. "It is encouraging to see the efforts of the many voting assistance officers paying off in high participation rates. We are proud to be of service to the citizens covered by the *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)* and will continue striving to give excellent assistance to these citizens to ensure their enfranchisement," states Ms. Phyllis Taylor, FVAP Director.

**Survey results for overseas civilian citizens are expected soon** and these and other results will be in the VIN as they become available.

In 1997, the FVAP continues to provide voting assistance and encourages all citizens covered by the *UOCAVA* to vote in all elections at all levels permitted by state law.

Several states currently have legislative initiatives under consideration by their state legislatures or awaiting signature from the governor. See the "State-side" section on page 2 for updates from your state.

participation than that of the general public!

As the chart above reflects, the Coast Guard posted the record with the highest participation among the Services. The Army and Marine Corps continued the steady increase they have exhibited over time, and the Navy and Air Force also had participation rates much higher than that of the general public.

## In This Issue

Uniformed Services' Survey Results	p. 1
Stateside	2
VAO's "To Do" This Month	2
Slogan Contest Judges	2
Electronic FVAP	3
FVAP Ombudsman Service	3
E-mail Subscription Form	4

# Stateside

**Legislative Initiative Update** - The Federal Voting Assistance Program works with the legislatures of the states and territories to further facilitate the electoral process to help ensure *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)* citizens are able to exercise their right to vote. The following is a sampling of legislation presently under consideration in various states which may effect *UOCAVA* citizens.

**California:** Assembly Bill 44 requires a study of the use of a digital electoral system for the collection, storage and processing of electronically generated and transmitted messages to permit any eligible person to register to vote, sign any petition, and vote in any election using the digital system. Passed in the House and is awaiting a hearing before Senate Committee on Elections and Reapportionment.

**Maine:** Legislative Document 1731 WAS SIGNED by Governor Angus King on June 10th (it becomes effective in 90 days from that date). The law allows for the Electronic Transmission of the Federal Post Card Application for registration and for ballot request.

**Texas:** Update on House Bill 841 - this proposed law would allow voting on election day through a secure electronic transmission line by Texas residents on a space flight. H.B. 841 has been passed by the State House and State Senate and is awaiting the signature of Governor George W. Bush.

If you have comments or questions on any of the above legislation in your state you can reach most state legislatures through links provided at the FVAP **Website** listed below, or phone the FVAP for mailing addresses.

## Voting Assistance Officers

### "To Do" This Month

- [ ] Follow through with distribution of the Communicating with Your Elected Officials - 105th Congress pamphlet.
- [ ] Do you want to receive this newsletter and FVAP news releases electronically? Read the article (page 3) and then E-mail your contact information to **vote@fvap.gov** or fax or mail the form on page 4 using the number and addresses below receive these materials via the internet.
- [ ] Visit the FVAP's site on the World Wide Web frequently for current information and resources from the FVAP as well as links to other sites of interest in carrying out your VAO duties. Encourage others to visit the site as well at **www.fvap.gov**.

## FVAP Slogan Contest Judges Announced

Phyllis Taylor, Director of the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) has just announced the officials who will act as judges for the 1997 FVAP Voting Slogan Contest.

The four individuals who have graciously agreed to participate in the judging are: Senator John W. Warner, Chairman, Senate Committee on Rules and Administration; William Thomas, Chairman, House Oversight Committee; Montana Secretary of State, Mike Cooney, President of the National Association of Secretaries of State and Ms. Eva Kasten, Executive Vice President of the Advertising Council.

Overall interest in the Contest has been very enthusiastic to date, with more than 4500 entries received. A certificate of recognition will be awarded to the author of the winning slogan. The FVAP thanks all those who entered this year's Contest and best of luck to all who entered!



## Federal Voting Assistance Program

*Voting Information News* provides information for citizens and Voting Assistance Officers and is published monthly by the staff of the Federal Voting Assistance Program.

Director: Phyllis J. Taylor  
Deputy Director: John G. Uschold

VIN Editor: Ricardo Rovira  
Program Analyst: Pauline Brunelli  
Program Analyst: Vanessa Wiggins  
Program Analyst: Betty Collins

Info Systems & Services: Terrence Williams

Voting Information Center:  
J. Scott Wiedmann  
Computer Specialist: Chris Dorr

Database Administrator: Marilyn Reck  
Executive Assistant: Sherri Morris  
Administrative Assistant: Cheri Kelly



### Write to:

Federal Voting Assistance Program  
Rm. 1B457, The Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20301-1155



### Phone

(703) 695-0663  
(800) 438-8683  
DSN 225-0663



### Fax

(703) 693-5507  
DSN 223-5507

### Voting Information Center

(703) 693-6500  
DSN 223-6500



### Internet

vote@fvap.gov  
<http://www.fvap.gov>

**YOUR VOTE IS THE ONE THAT MATTERS**



**Note:** Copying or using VIN articles in other publications, etc. is encouraged.

## FVAP Materials Available Electronically

The FVAP is now offering many of its informational materials electronically. This is a great way to disseminate materials more efficiently and serving our customers on a real-time basis. Below are alternative methods of receiving many of the FVAP's informational materials. Read on to see how to receive FVAP documents electronically, then complete the form on page 4 and E-mail, mail, or fax the request to the FVAP.

Visitors to the FVAP's site on the World Wide Web can access the *Voting Assistance Guide* for procedures on requesting registration and an absentee ballot from their state or territory of voting residence. The web site also has a depiction of the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA, SF 76) and the Federal Write In Absentee Ballot (FWAB, SF 186) forms.

Site visitors will soon be able to access the current issue and back-issues of the FVAP's Voting Information News newsletter, FVAP election information news releases, the FVAP's Post-Election Survey results and up-to-date election results and links to the Home Pages of their Secretaries of State and Directors of Election. The FVAP Home Page is regularly updated so citizens are encouraged to visit the site regularly.

The Web site also provides E-Mail access to the FVAP. Alternatively, you can E-mail FVAP directly at [vote@fvap.gov](mailto:vote@fvap.gov).

This Newsletter and the FVAP News Releases can be sent to you directly in electronic format. E-mail us with the information requested on the form or fax or mail the form on page four and we will immediately add you to our Newsletter and News Release subscriber list. If you are currently receiving the Newsletter and News Releases by regular mail, be sure to let us know the complete address where the materials are currently mailed so we can take you off the list of regular mail subscribers.

## Ombudsman Service

The FVAP's Ombudsman Services is there to help you if you cannot resolve your voting concern locally. You can contact the service by regular mail, e-mail, fax or phone.

Toll-free phone numbers from 50 countries and all other contact information are listed below and at the bottom of this page.

### In the U.S. 1-800-438-8683

Antigua 1-800-326-0220  
Australia 0014-800-128509  
Bahamas 180-995-09-20  
Bahrain 800-621  
Barbados 800-534-2104  
Belgium 078-111-455  
Bermuda 800-623-0077  
Brazil 000-811-926-5585  
Canada 800-995-0920  
Chile 00-020-3071  
Colombia 980-12-0896  
Costa Rica 0-800-011-0125  
Denmark 800-10-169  
Dominican Rep. 800-751-7131  
Finland 9800-156-284  
France 0-800-900-156  
Germany 013-081-9277  
Greece 008-001-22-586  
Hong Kong 800-6984  
Hungary 00-800-11-158  
Ireland 1-800-557-083  
Israel 177-102-4012  
Italy 1-678-72-444  
Indonesia 00-800-1-923-3685  
Japan 0031-11-2429

Liechtenstein 1-155-4514  
Luxembourg 0-800-2499  
Malaysia 800-2170  
Mexico 95-800-010-1438  
Monaco 0-59-00-156  
Netherlands 06-022-2499  
Neth. Antilles 001-800-753-0767  
New Zealand 0-800-44-0799  
Norway 800-12093  
Panama 0083-28027-4197  
Philippines 1-800-116-0009  
Portugal 0501-8-13-035  
San Marino 1-678-72-444  
Singapore 800-1300-210  
South Korea 0078-14-800-0203  
Spain 900-93-1108  
Sweden 020-793-503  
Switzerland 155-4514  
Taiwan 0080-10-3153  
Thailand 001-800-1-1-923-6685  
Trinidad&Tobago 1-800-934-7340  
United Kingdom 0-800-895-7403  
Uruguay 000-411-923-7985  
Vatican City 1678-72-4444

## VOTING INFORMATION CENTER

Contact your:

- \* U.S. Senators
- \* U.S. Representative
- \* Governor
- \* State Chief Election Official
- \* Department of State or Service Voting Action Officer

Hear recorded messages from these elected officials

Keep up with the latest election news from your state

**Call Today:**

**703 - 693 - 6500**

**DSN 223 - 6500**

### State Department: Office of American Citizens Services

Voting Action Officer: Mr. Patrick Hegerty **tel:** (202) 647-6060 **tel FTS:** 8-647-4994, **fax:** (202) 647-6201

### Service Voting Action Officers

Dept. of the Army: Mr. Tom Feazell **tel:** (703) 325-4530 **tel DSN:** 221-4530, **fax:** (703) 325-4532, **fax DSN:** 221-4532  
**E-mail:** feazellt@hoffman-ehml.army.mil

Dept. of the Navy: Ms. Thelma Jones **tel:** (703) 614-3248, **tel DSN:** 224-3248, **fax:** (703) 693-6471  
**E-mail:** P662J@bupers.navy.mil

Dept. of the Air Force: Mr. John Lowrance **tel:** (210) 652-4369 **tel DSN:** 487-4369, **fax:** (210) 652-5982, **fax DSN:** 487-5982  
**E-mail:** barnards@hq.afpc.af.mil

Marine Corps: GySgt Elijah Kinton **tel:** (703) 696-2026 **tel DSN:** 426-2026, **fax:** (703) 696-2068, **fax DSN:** 426-2068  
**ELMS [GMHP03:HQIHQMC]; Internet:** kinton\_jre@hqi.usmc.mil; **E-mail:** kinton@mhp@hqmc

U.S. Coast Guard: LCDR Reggie Sealey **tel:** (202) 267-2239, **fax:** (202) 267-4823

**E-mail:** CTOS/SWS-II: rsealy@comdt.uscg.mil/mailgatehq

All of the above can be reached through the DoD Voting Information Center and the FVAP WEB Site <http://www.fvap.gov>

Please share this copy of VIN with others.

**Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) Mailing List Questionnaire**

Instructions: Fill out the blanks below and return to the FVAP. No cover sheet is necessary when faxing.

**Name:** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |**Mailing****Address:** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |**Phone:** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |**Fax:** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |**E-mail****Address:** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

- ☐ I would like to receive the Voting Information News by E-mail at the above address.
- ☐ I would like to receive the FVAP Voting News Releases by E-mail at the above address.
- ☐ I do not wish to receive the Voting Information News. Remove my name from your mailing list.

**Please complete if available:** Address on mailing label of this newsletter (or attach mailing label):| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |**Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_Federal Voting Assistance Program  
Washington, DC 20301-1155U.S. Postage Paid  
39 USC 3406**Par Avion****OFFICIAL VOTING INFORMATION MATERIAL - FIRST CLASS MAIL**

NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IN THE U.S. MAILS - DMM E080